TAY RESOURCE FAIR A SUCCESS By Kathleen Piché, L.C.S.W., Public Affairs Director



The Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health (LACDMH) hosted a free resource fair for Transition Age Youth (TAY) on Tuesday, January 20, 2015, from 3PM - 7PM at Pacoima City Hall in Service Area 2. The health and awareness fair featured a schedule of helpful experts that spoke on multiple topics, such as mental health services, substance use, work, safe sex and tattoo removal.



The largest of its kind in the San Fernando Valley, the fair was hosted by LACDMH, multiple Community Based Organizations (CBOs) and a long list of providers that offer assistance to at-risk youth and young adults.



Under the care of Los Angeles County, more than 25,000 transition age youth (TAY) clients – at-risk youth and young adults – received County services last year alone. And each year, about 1,100 youth age out of the County's care and enter the community as young adults. Some have adequate resources while others do their best to find their way. Many of these teenagers and young adults risk becoming vulnerable to dangerous situations such as drugs, homelessness and child prostitution. Many are unaware of free resources and programs available to help get them back on their feet, off the streets and on their way to hope, wellness and recovery. This resource fair provided a one-stop shop for services.



Thanks to the organizing committee that helped make the resource fair possible, including Jim Randall, Reina Decullar, Terica Roberts, Elmer Ornelas, Providence Faith Health Community Partnership (Jenny Rosales, Armida Cruz, Marlene Naumann), Village Family Services (Anthony Gonzalez), Hillview Mental Health (Peggy Wilson-Jordan).